

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:AMGT, AREG

SUBJECT: TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

REF: B.A. 0821

TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL LETTER REQUESTED REFTEL FOLLOWS:

1. QUOTE. DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: YOUR MISSION AS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA IS OF THE UTMOST SIGNIFICANCE TO OUR COUNTRY AND TO ME PERSONALLY. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

2. I ATTACH THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO MY CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CONDUCT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. AS THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, YOU SHARE THESE RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE COUNTRY TO WHICH YOU ARE ACCREDITED.

3. YOU WILL, OF COURSE, REPORT TO ME THROUGH AND NORMALLY RECEIVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUT ALSO FOR THE OVERALL DIRECTION, COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS.

4. I BELIEVE THAT ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO IMPROVE AND TIGHTEN THE PROCESSES OF FOREIGN POLICY
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IMPLEMENTATION ABROAD. I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOUR FULL

SUPPORT IN DIRECTING THE ACTIVITIES OF ALL ELEMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. TO ASSURE YOU AND ALL CONCERNED THAT YOU HAVE MY FULL PERSONAL BACKING, I WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON YOUR OWN AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. AS CHIEF OF THE UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC MISSION, YOU AVE FULL RESPONSIBILITY TO DIRECT AND COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS OF ALL OF ITS ELEMENTS. YOU WILL EXERCISE THIS MANDATE NOT ONLY BY PROVIDING POLICY LEADERSHIP AND GUIDANCE, BUT ALSO BY ASSURING POSITIVE PROGRAM DIRECTION TO THE END TAT ALL UNITED STATES ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA ARE RELEVANT TO CURRENT REALITIES, ARE EFFICIENTLY AND ECONOMICALLY ADMINISTERED, AND ARE

EFFECTIVELY INTERRELATED SO THAT THEY WILL MAKE A MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION TO UNITED STATES INTERESTS IN THAT COUNTRY AS WELL AS TO OUR REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OBJECTIVES.

6. I AM CONCERNED THAT THE SIZE OF OUR REPRESENTATION ABROAD BE RELATED TO A STRINGENT APPRAISAL OF POLICY AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND THAT THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL OF ALL AGENCIES BE KEPT AT THE VERY MINIMUM NECESSARY TO MEET OUR OBJECTIVES. I SHALL EXPECT YOU TO MAINTAIN A CONTINUING PERSONAL CONCERN ON THIS MATTER AND TO INFORM THE SECRETARY OF STATE WHEN YOU BELIEVE THAT THE STAFF OF ANY AGENCY OR PROGRAM IS EXCESSIVE.

7. I SHALL EXPECT YOU TO ASSURE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PERSONAL CONDUCT BY ALL UNITED STATES PERSONNEL, CIVILIAN OR MILITARY; YOU HAVE AUTHORITY TO TAKE ANY CORRECTIVE ACTION WHICH IN YOUR JUDGMENT IS NECESSARY.

8. YOU HAVE, OF COURSE, THE RIGHT TO BE KEPT INFORMED, TO THE EXTENT YOU DEEM NECESSARY, OF ALL THE INFORMATION OR RECOMMENDATIONS REPORTED BY ANY ELEMENT OF THE MISSION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND I HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE WILL WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE POLICIES AND COURSES OF ACTIONS BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISIONS. WHEN YOU OR OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR MISSION

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BELIEVE SUCH ALTERNATIVES MERIT CONSIDERATION, WE ENCOURAGE YOUR PUTTING THEM FORWARD ALONG WITH YOUR OWN RECOMMENDATIONS.

9. I WILL RESERVE FOR MYSELF, AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, DIRECT AUTHORITY OVER THE MILITARY CHAIN OF COMMAND TO UNITED STATES MILITARY FORCES UNDER THE COMMAND OF A UNITED STATES AREA MILITARY COMMANDER, AND OVER SUCH

OTHER MILITARY ACTIVITIES AS I ELECT, AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, TO CONDUCT THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS.

10. HOWEVER, I WILL EXPECT YOU AND THE MILITARY COMMANDERS CONCERNED TO MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER, TO KEEP EACH OTHER CURRENTLY INFORMED ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND IN GENERAL TO COOPERATE IN CARRYING OUT OUR NATIONAL POLICY. IF DIFFERENCES OF VIEW NOT CAPABLE OF RESOLUTION IN THE FIELD SHOULD ARISE, I WILL EXPECT YOU TO KEEP ME INFORMED THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

11. I DEEPLY BELIEVE, AS I SAID IN MY INAUGURAL ADDRESS, THAT FORCES NOW ARE CONVERGING THAT MAY MAKE POSSIBLE THE REALIZATION OF MANY OF MAN'S DEEPEST ASPIRATIONS. IF QUOTE THE TIMES ARE ON THE SIDE OF PEACE, UNQUOTE I ALSO DEEPLY BELIEVE THAT YOU, AND THE DEDICATED PERSONNEL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE AND THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES WHO COMPRISE THE STAFF OF YOUR MISSION, WILL INSURE THAT WE TAKE MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE SO CLEARLY BEFORE US. WITH MY BEST WISHES, SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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